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Date: December 23, 1998

By:

Kay L. Garglio

PATENT

Docket No. GC329-US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Johannes C. van der Laan, et al.

Serial No.: 07/565,673

Filed: August 10, 1990

For: Efficient Production of Mutant Proteases

Group Art Unit: 1814

Examiner: Hendricks, K.

RESPONSE UNDER C.F. R. 1.129

Box DAC
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants request that the finality of the Office Action of January 22, 1997, be removed as the above-referenced application has been pending for at least two years as of June 8, 1995, taking into account any reference made in such application to an earlier application. Authorization to charge the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(r) is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter the following remarks and amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4-7, 9-10, 12-14, 19, 23-25, 29-35 and 38-40, without prejudice. Please substitute therefor the following new Claims 41-53.

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